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**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/705,208

Applicant(s)

MCBRIDE ET AL.

Examiner

Benjamin Buss

Art Unit

2129

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 October 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 13-15, 22-35 and 40 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 13-15, 22-35 and 40 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 10 November 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**DETAILED ACTION**

This Office Action is in response to an AMENDMENT entered 10/31/2007 for the patent application 10/705,208 filed on 11/10/2003. The Office Actions of 5/7/2007, 10/16/2006 and 4/20/2006 are fully incorporated into this Office Action by reference. Claims 1, 13-15, 22-35, & 40 are pending.

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In the event that Applicant chooses to amend, the Examiner suggests clearly defining the following broad terms in the claims:

natural language	response layer	linked
input layer	recognized	tag
instruction	code	

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**Claim Objections**

Claims 1 and 35 are objected to because of the following informalities:

- Claims 1 and 35: And the end of the claim, change "the response layer or the logic layer, respectively" to -- the response layer or the logic layer, as called for by the signifier --.

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Appropriate correction is required.

***Response to Arguments***

No arguments presented. This objection is properly maintained.

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**Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112*****Response to Arguments***

Applicants' arguments, see page 7, filed 10/31/2007, with respect to the rejection of claims 1 & 35 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of claims 1 & 35 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, have been withdrawn. Furthermore, the rejection of claim 6 is moot because the claim has been canceled.

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**Claim Rejections - 35 USC §§ 103**

***Response to Arguments***

The rejections of claims 5-6, 8-10, and 41 are moot because the claims have been canceled. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 13-15, 22-35, and 40 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection presented below.

**Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103**

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 13-15, 23-24, 27-35, and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Chikirivao** (USPAP 2003/0163783) and **Wallace** ("The Elements of AIML Style").

**Independent Claim 1:**

**Chikirivao** teaches:

- providing a template interface to the administrator, wherein the template includes at least one field to elicit information from the administrator (pages 1-7 especially "querying the administrator ... create a customized rule based upon a pre-existing customizable rule template saved in the rule repository" ¶¶38-39),
- receiving information from the administrator into the template (pages 1-7 especially "querying the administrator ... create a customized rule based upon a pre-existing customizable rule template saved in the rule repository" ¶¶38-39 and "entering and saving of data into a template" ¶43), and
- making the information accessible to a rules-based program for use in providing the at least one response in reply to a request from a user (pages 1-7 especially "querying the administrator ... create a customized rule based upon a pre-existing customizable rule template saved in the rule repository ... either testing the rule or saving the rule" ¶¶38-39 and "rules created by an administrator are preferably saved in the rule repository" ¶29), wherein the step of making the information accessible to the rules-based program saves the information as part of the template into rules (pages 1-7 especially "querying the administrator ... create a customized rule based upon a pre-existing customizable rule template saved in the rule repository" ¶¶38-39

Art Unit: 2129

and "entering and saving of data into a template" ¶43 and "querying the administrator ... create a customized rule based upon a pre-existing customizable rule template saved in the rule repository ... either testing the rule or saving the rule" ¶38-39 and "rules created by an administrator are preferably saved in the rule repository" ¶29 and "querying the administrator ... create a customized rule based upon a pre-existing customizable rule template saved in the rule repository ... either testing the rule or saving the rule" ¶38-39 and "rules created by an administrator are preferably saved in the rule repository" ¶29; *The rule repository is clearly structured data storage*), and wherein the step of saving the information into rules includes the steps of:

- o retrieving rules (pages 1-7 especially "system obtains the rule" ¶38-39),
- o for each rule retrieved, determining whether the rule needs information (pages 1-7 especially "administrator may need to specify more or less information" ¶40 and "rules which are generated based upon ... information ... based upon parameters specified" ¶31 and "information and/or sub-rules needed to make such determinations" ¶32 and "rules may be designed with any level of interactivity and/or user knowledge required and may include and utilize data and other information" ¶33 and "extracts from the provided information those parameters required by the rule(s)" ¶44-48),
- o if the rule needs information, retrieving the information from a corresponding field in the template and inserting the information into the rule (pages 1-7 especially "extracts from the provided information those parameters required by the rule(s)" ¶44-48 and "administrator may need to specify more or less information" ¶40 and "routing of information based upon the input template" ¶59),
- o wherein the step of determining whether the rule needs information includes determining whether either a response layer or a logic layer needs information (pages 1-7 especially "rule which requires the user to provide inputs as to specific needs" ¶35 and "administrator may need to specify more or less information" ¶40 and "rules which are generated based upon ... information ... based upon parameters specified" ¶31 and "information and/or sub-rules needed to make such determinations" ¶32 and "rules may be designed with any level of interactivity and/or user knowledge required and may include and utilize data and other information" ¶33 and "extracts from the provided information those parameters required by the rule(s)" ¶44-48), and

Art Unit: 2129

- retrieving information indicated as needed from a corresponding field in the template and inserting the information into the response layer or logic layer, respectively (pages 1-7 especially "templates and other features that enable a user to expeditiously enter the necessary information required" ¶43 and "extracts from the provided information those parameters required by the rule(s)" ¶44-48 and "information is received from the field" ¶50 and "routing of information based upon the input template" ¶59 and "administrator may need to specify more or less information" ¶40);

Chikirivao fails to teach:

- wherein the step of determining whether a layer needs information, includes the step of identifying a signifier in the layer,
  - o wherein the signifier is an identifier configured to call for information such that the call for information invokes a process to select the information from a corresponding field in the template so that the information will be linked to the rule, and
  - o wherein the logic layer is configured to choose between various responses provided by the user,
  - o wherein at least one of the responses is recognized by the logic layer,
  - o wherein the chosen response is the response to be used in the response layer.

Wallace teaches:

- providing a template interface to the administrator, wherein the template includes at least one field to elicit information from the administrator (p1-83 especially i.e. "template window" p42; *Examiner acknowledges that the term "<template>" in the reference is closer to the claimed "rules" than the claimed "template". The "template window" on page 42 of the reference does read on the claimed "template" as it is "interface provided to the administrator / botmaster in order to elicit information that will become part of the rules from which a rules-based program provides responses*),
- receiving information from the administrator into the template (p1-83 especially i.e. "In the template window, the botmaster types: ..." p42-43 or "Now s/he edits the template to read: ..." p44), and
- making the information accessible to a rules-based program for use in providing the at least one response in reply to a request from a user, wherein the step of making the information accessible to the rules-based

Art Unit: 2129

program saves the information as part of the template into rules (p1-83 especially "store" p30 or "save" p43-44 or p47 or p50 or p53 p79), and wherein the step of saving the information into rules includes the steps of:

- o retrieving rules (p1-83 especially i.e. "categories" p12-13 or "patterns and templates" p21-23),
- o for each rule retrieved, determining whether the rule needs information (p1-83 especially "AIML tags transform the reply into a mini computer program which can save data, activate other programs, give conditional responses, and recursively call the pattern matcher to insert the responses from other categories" p12-13; *Examiner points out that AIML tags indicate when the rules need more information*),
- o if the rule needs information, retrieving the information from a corresponding field in the template and inserting the information into the rule (p1-83 especially i.e. p12-13 or p21-23 or p38-39 or p53-57),
  - wherein the step of determining whether the rule needs information includes determining if either a response layer or a logic layer needs information by identifying the presence of a signifier in the response layer or the logic layer, respectively, wherein the signifier is an identifier configured to call for information such that the call for information invokes a process to select the information from a corresponding field in the template so that the information will be linked to the rule (p1-83 especially "AIML tags transform the reply into a mini computer program which can save data, activate other programs, give conditional responses, and recursively call the pattern matcher to insert the responses from other categories" p12-13 or p53-55; *Examiner points out that AIML tags indicate when the rules need more information. These tags can be part of the logic layer used to determine the appropriate branches to take in seeking a response for the input, or they can be part of the response layer used to give responses or call processes in response to the input*), and
  - wherein the logic layer is configured to choose between various responses provided by the administrator (p1-83 especially i.e. p53-55 or p56-57),
  - wherein at least one of the responses is recognized by the logic layer (p1-83 especially i.e. p21-23 or p52-53; *Examiner points out that AIML relies on the graph master / logic layer recognizing which administrator provided response is appropriate for the given input*),

Art Unit: 2129

- wherein the chosen response is the response to be used in the response layer (p1-83 especially i.e. "The algorithm finds best-matching pattern for each input. The category ties the response template directly to the stimulus pattern" p38-39 or p56-57), and
- retrieving information indicated as needed from a corresponding field in the template and inserting the information into the response layer or logic layer, respectively (p1-83 especially i.e. p12-13 or p16-17 or p56-57);

Rationale:

**Chikirivao** and **Wallace** are from the same field of endeavor, information management and retrieval. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the teachings of **Chikirivao** by identifying a signifier / tag in a layer such as the response or logic layer to determine whether information is needed as taught by **Wallace** for the benefit of making it easy for non-programmers to simply / easily write interactive responses for a variety of applications (**Wallace** p36, 77-80).

**Independent Claim 35:**

**Chikirivao** teaches:

- An interface configured to receive information from the administrator (pages 1-7 especially "querying the administrator ... create a customized rule based upon a pre-existing customizable rule template saved in the rule repository" ¶38-39 and "querying the administrator ... create a customized rule based upon a pre-existing customizable rule template saved in the rule repository" ¶38-39 and "entering and saving of data into a template" ¶43);
- A template accessible to the administrator, wherein the template includes at least one field to elicit information from the administrator (pages 1-7 especially "querying the administrator ... create a customized rule based upon a pre-existing customizable rule template saved in the rule repository" ¶38-39 and "querying the administrator ... create a customized rule based upon a pre-existing customizable rule template saved in the rule repository" ¶38-39 and "entering and saving of data into a template" ¶43);
- An engine configured to:
  - o Make the information accessible to a rules-based program that provides the at least one response in reply to the inputs from the user (pages 1-7 especially "querying the administrator ... create a



customized rule based upon a pre-existing customizable rule template saved in the rule repository ... either testing the rule or saving the rule" ¶¶38-39 and "rules created by an administrator are preferably saved in the rule repository" ¶¶29);

- o Retrieve the rules (pages 1-7 especially "system obtains the rule" ¶¶38-39);
- o For each rule retrieved, determine whether the rule needs information (pages 1-7 especially "administrator may need to specify more or less information" ¶¶40 and "rules which are generated based upon ... information ... based upon parameters specified" ¶¶31 and "information and/or sub-rules needed to make such determinations" ¶¶32 and "rules may be designed with any level of interactivity and/or user knowledge required and may include and utilize data and other information" ¶¶33 and "extracts from the provided information those parameters required by the rule(s)" ¶¶44-48);
- o Retrieve the information from a corresponding field in the template and insert the information into the rule if the rule needs information (pages 1-7 especially "extracts from the provided information those parameters required by the rule(s)" ¶¶44-48 and "administrator may need to specify more or less information" ¶¶40 and "routing of information based upon the input template" ¶¶59);
- o Determine if either a response layer or a logic layer needs information (pages 1-7 especially "rule which requires the user to provide inputs as to specific needs" ¶¶35 and "administrator may need to specify more or less information" ¶¶40 and "rules which are generated based upon ... information ... based upon parameters specified" ¶¶31 and "information and/or sub-rules needed to make such determinations" ¶¶32 and "rules may be designed with any level of interactivity and/or user knowledge required and may include and utilize data and other information" ¶¶33 and "extracts from the provided information those parameters required by the rule(s)" ¶¶44-48); and
  - retrieving information indicated as needed from a corresponding field in the template and inserting the information into the response layer or logic layer, respectively (pages 1-7 especially "templates and other features that enable a user to expeditiously enter the necessary information required" ¶¶43 and "extracts from the provided information those parameters required by the rule(s)" ¶¶44-48 and "information is received from the field" ¶¶50 and "routing of information based upon the input template" ¶¶59 and "administrator may need to specify more or less information" ¶¶40);

Art Unit: 2129

**Chikirivao** fails to teach:

- Wherein the step of determining whether a layer needs information, includes identifying a signifier in the layer,
  - o wherein the signifier is an identifier configured to call for information such that the call for information invokes a process to select the information from a corresponding field in the template so that the information will be linked to the rule, and
  - o wherein the logic layer is configured to choose between various responses provided by the user,
  - o wherein at least one of the responses is recognized by the logic layer,
  - o wherein the chosen response is the response to be used in the response layer.

10 **Wallace** teaches:

- an interface configured to receive information from the administrator (p1-83 especially i.e. "In the template window, the botmaster types: ..." p42-43 or "Now s/he edits the template to read: ..." p44);
- a template accessible to the administrator, wherein the template includes at least one field to elicit information from the administrator (p1-83 especially i.e. "In the template window, the botmaster types: ..." p42-43 or "Now s/he edits the template to read: ..." p44; *Examiner acknowledges that the term "<template>" in the reference is closer to the claimed "rules" than the claimed "template". The "template window" on page 42 of the reference does read on the claimed "template" as it is "interface provided to the administrator / botmaster in order to elicit information that will become part of the rules from which a rules-based program provides responses); and*
- an engine configured to:
  - o make the information accessible to a rules-based program that provides the at least one response in reply to the inputs from the user (p1-83 especially p43-44 or p47 or p53);
  - o save the information as part of the template into rules (p1-83 especially i.e. "store" p30 or "save" p43-44 or p47 or p50 or p53 p79);
  - o retrieve the rules (p1-83 especially i.e. "categories" p12-13 or "patterns and templates" p21-23);
  - o for each rule retrieved, determine whether the rule needs information (p1-83 especially i.e. "AIML tags transform the reply into a mini computer program which can save data, activate other programs, give conditional responses, and recursively call the pattern matcher to insert the responses from

Art Unit: 2129

other categories" p12-13; *Examiner points out that AIML tags indicate when the rules need more information*);

- retrieve the information from a corresponding field in the template and insert the information into the rule if the rule needs information (p1-83 especially i.e. p12-13 or p21-23 or p38-39 or p56-57);
- determine if either a response layer or a logic layer needs information by identifying the presence of a signifier in the response layer or the logic layer, respectively, wherein the signifier is an identifier configured to call for information such that the call for information invokes a process to select the information from a corresponding field in the template so that the information will be linked to the rule (p1-83 especially i.e. "AIML tags transform the reply into a mini computer program which can save data, activate other programs, give conditional responses, and recursively call the pattern matcher to insert the responses from other categories" p12-13 or p53-55; *Examiner points out that AIML tags indicate when the rules need more information. These tags can be part of the logic layer used to determine the appropriate branches to take in seeking a response for the input, or they can be part of the response layer used to give responses or call processes in response to the input*), and
- wherein the logic layer is configured to choose between various responses provided by the administrator (p1-83 especially i.e. p53-55 or p56-57),
- wherein at least one of the responses is recognized by the logic layer (p1-83 especially i.e. p21-23 or p52-53; *Examiner points out that AIML relies on the graph master / logic layer recognizing which administrator provided response is appropriate for the given input*),
- wherein the chosen response is the response to be used in the response layer (p1-83 especially i.e. "The algorithm finds best-matching pattern for each input. The category ties the response template directly to the stimulus pattern" p38-39 or p56-57), and
- retrieve information indicated as needed from a corresponding field in the template and inserting the information into the response layer or logic layer, respectively (p1-83 especially i.e. p12-13 or p16-17 or p56-57);

Rationale:

Chikirivao and Wallace are from the same field of endeavor, information management and retrieval. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the teachings

Art Unit: 2129

of **Chikirivao** by identifying a signifier / tag in a layer such as the response or logic layer to determine whether information is needed as taught by **Wallace** for the benefit of making it easy for non-programmers to simply / easily write interactive responses for a variety of applications (**Wallace** p36, 77-80).

5 **Claim 13:****Chikirivao** fails to teach:

- Wherein the signifier is a tag in a text string.

**Wallace** teaches:

- Wherein the signifier is a tag in a text string (p1-83 especially i.e. "AIML tags transform the reply into a mini  
10 computer program which can save data, activate other programs, give conditional responses, and recursively call the pattern matcher to insert the responses from other categories" p12-13 or p15 or p40 or p53-55).

**Rationale:**

- Chikirivao** and **Wallace** are from the same field of endeavor, information management and retrieval. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the teachings  
15 of **Chikirivao** by identifying a signifier / tag in a text string to determine whether information is needed as taught by **Wallace** for the benefit of making it easy for non-programmers to simply / easily write interactive responses for a variety of applications (**Wallace** p36, 77-80).

**Claim 14:**20 **Chikirivao** fails to teach:

- Wherein the signifier is an instruction embedded in a text string.

**Wallace** teaches:

- Wherein the signifier is an instruction embedded in a text string (p1-83 especially i.e. p12-13 or p15-18).

**Rationale:**

- Chikirivao** and **Wallace** are from the same field of endeavor, information management and retrieval. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the teachings  
25 of **Chikirivao** by identifying a instruction embedded in a text string to determine whether information is

Art Unit: 2129

needed as taught by **Wallace** for the benefit of making it easy for non-programmers to simply / easily write interactive responses for a variety of applications (**Wallace** p36, 77-80).

**Claim 15:**5 **Chikirivao** fails to teach:

- Wherein the signifier is a code.

**Wallace** teaches:

- Wherein the signifier is a code (p1-83 especially i.e. "<system> tag executes any program accessible as an operating system shell command, and inserts the results in the reply. Similarly, the <javascript> tag allows arbitrary scripting" p12-13 or p15-18).

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Rationale:

**Chikirivao** and **Wallace** are from the same field of endeavor, information management and retrieval. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the teachings of **Chikirivao** by identifying a code to determine whether information is needed as taught by **Wallace** for the benefit of making it easy for non-programmers to simply / easily write interactive responses for a variety of applications (**Wallace** p36, 77-80).

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**Claim 23:****Chikirivao** teaches:

- Wherein the step of making the information accessible to the rules-based program is accomplished by receiving a manual command from a user (pages 1-7 especially "access to a rule may be specified manually or automatically" ¶43).

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**Claim 24:****Chikirivao** teaches:

- Wherein the step of making the information accessible to the rules-based program is accomplished automatically upon the occurrence of a predefined event (pages 1-7 especially "access to a rule may be specified manually or automatically" ¶43).

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Art Unit: 2129

**Claim 27:****Chikirivao teaches:**

- Wherein the predefined event is activation of a save function by the administrator (pages 1-7 especially "access to a rule may be specified manually or automatically ... rule may be activated upon the entering and saving of data into a template" ¶43).

**Claims 28 and 40:****Chikirivao teaches:**

- Further including the step of enabling the administrator to edit the information (pages 1-7 especially "querying the administrator ... modify an existing rule ... create a customized rule based upon a pre-existing customizable rule template saved in the rule repository ... allow the user to modify/customize the rule" ¶38-39 and "enables such administrators to ... edit ... the rules" ¶29).

**Claim 29:****Chikirivao teaches:**

- Wherein the step of enabling the administrator to edit the information includes the steps of:
  - o Retrieving the information (pages 1-7 especially "obtains the rule and provides those interfaces necessary to allow the user to modify/customize the rule" ¶38-39),
  - o Posting the information in at least one appropriate field in the template (pages 1-7 especially "based upon a pre-existing customizable rule template ... obtains the rule and provides those interfaces necessary to allow the user to modify/customize the rule" ¶38-39 and "templates and other features that enable a user to expeditiously enter the necessary information required for a given task" ¶43),
  - o Receiving edited information from the administrator into the template (pages 1-7 especially "based upon a pre-existing customizable rule template ... obtains the rule and provides those interfaces necessary to allow the user to modify/customize the rule" ¶38-39 and "templates and other features that enable a user to expeditiously enter the necessary information required for a given task" ¶43), and

Art Unit: 2129

- o Making the edited information accessible to the rules-based program for use in providing the at least one response in reply to a request from the user (pages 1-7 especially "querying the administrator ... create a customized rule based upon a pre-existing customizable rule template saved in the rule repository ... either testing the rule or saving the rule" ¶¶38-39 and "rules created by an administrator are preferably saved in the rule repository" ¶29).

**Claim 30:**

Chikirivao teaches wherein:

- The step of making the information accessible to the rules-based program saves the information as part of the template (pages 1-7 especially "access to a rule may be specified manually or automatically ... rule may be activated upon the entering and saving of data into a template" ¶43), and
- The step of retrieving the information includes the step of restoring the information to the at least one field (pages 1-7 especially "based upon a pre-existing customizable rule template ... obtains the rule and provides those interfaces necessary to allow the user to modify/customize the rule" ¶¶38-39).

**Claim 31:**

Chikirivao teaches wherein:

- The step of making the information accessible to the rules-based program saves the information as structured data (pages 1-7 especially "querying the administrator ... create a customized rule based upon a pre-existing customizable rule template saved in the rule repository ... either testing the rule or saving the rule" ¶¶38-39 and "rules created by an administrator are preferably saved in the rule repository" ¶29; *The rule repository is clearly structured data storage*).

Chikirivao fails to teach wherein:

- The step of retrieving the information includes the steps of, for at least one of the at least one field in the template:
  - o Retrieving instructions indicating where the information is stored, and
  - o Executing the instructions to retrieve the information.

Wallace teaches wherein:

Art Unit: 2129

- The step of making the information accessible to the rules-based program saves the information as structured data (p1-83 especially i.e. "structure" p21-24 or p30 or p50 or p79), and
- The step of retrieving the information includes the steps of, for at least one of the at least one field in the template:

- 5
- o Retrieving instructions indicating where the information is stored (p1-83 especially i.e. p21-24)
  - o Executing the instructions to retrieve the information (p1-83 especially i.e. p12-13 or p21-24 or p38-39 or p56-57).

Rationale:

10 **Chikirivao** and **Wallace** are from the same field of endeavor, information management and retrieval. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the teachings of **Chikirivao** by using executing instructions to retrieve information is needed as taught by **Wallace** for the benefit of making it easy for non-programmers to simply / easily write interactive responses for a variety of applications (**Wallace** p36, 77-80).

15 **Claim 32:****Chikirivao** teaches wherein:

- The step of making the information accessible to the rules-based program saves the information into rules (pages 1-7 especially "querying the administrator ... create a customized rule based upon a pre-existing customizable rule template saved in the rule repository ... either testing the rule or saving the rule" ¶¶38-39
- 20 and "rules created by an administrator are preferably saved in the rule repository" ¶¶29).

**Chikirivao** fails to teach wherein:

- The step of retrieving the information includes the steps of, for at least one of the at least one field in the template:
  - o Retrieving instructions indicating where the information is stored, and
  - 25 o Executing the instructions to retrieve the information.

**Wallace** teaches wherein:

- The step of making the information accessible to the rules-based program saves the information as structured data (p1-83 especially i.e. "structure" p21-24 or p30 or p50 or p79), and



Art Unit: 2129

- The step of retrieving the information includes the steps of, for at least one of the at least one field in the template:
  - o Retrieving instructions indicating where the information is stored (p1-83 especially i.e. p21-24)
  - o Executing the instructions to retrieve the information (p1-83 especially i.e. p12-13 or p21-24 or p38-39 or p56-57).

Rationale:

**Chikirivao** and **Wallace** are from the same field of endeavor, information management and retrieval. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the teachings of **Chikirivao** by using executing instructions to retrieve information is needed as taught by **Wallace** for the benefit of making it easy for non-programmers to simply / easily write interactive responses for a variety of applications (**Wallace** p36, 77-80).

**Claim 33:****Chikirivao** teaches wherein:

- The step of making the information accessible to the rules-based program saves the information into rules (pages 1-7 especially "querying the administrator ... create a customized rule based upon a pre-existing customizable rule template saved in the rule repository ... either testing the rule or saving the rule" ¶¶38-39 and "rules created by an administrator are preferably saved in the rule repository" ¶¶29).

**Chikirivao** fails to teach wherein:

- The step of retrieving the information includes the steps of, for each rule used:
  - o Determining whether the rule includes a signifier, and
  - o If a signifier is included, executing instructions from the signifier to retrieve the information associated with the rule.

**Wallace** teaches wherein:

- The step of retrieving the information includes the steps of, for each rule used:
  - o Determining whether the rule includes a signifier (-83 especially i.e. p12-13 or p21-23 or p38-39 or p53-57), and

Art Unit: 2129

- o If a signifier is included, executing instructions from the signifier to retrieve the information associated with the rule (-83 especially i.e. p12-13 or p21-23 or p38-39 or p53-57).

Rationale:

**Chikirivao** and **Wallace** are from the same field of endeavor, information management and retrieval. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the teachings of **Chikirivao** by using executing instructions to retrieve information is needed as taught by **Wallace** for the benefit of making it easy for non-programmers to simply / easily write interactive responses for a variety of applications (**Wallace** p36, 77-80).

10 **Claim 34:****Chikirivao** teaches wherein:

- The step of making the information accessible to the rules-based program saves the information into rules (pages 1-7 especially "querying the administrator ... create a customized rule based upon a pre-existing customizable rule template saved in the rule repository ... either testing the rule or saving the rule" ¶¶38-39 and "rules created by an administrator are preferably saved in the rule repository" ¶29).

**Chikirivao** fails to teach wherein:

- The step of retrieving the information includes the steps of, for each rule used:
  - o Determining whether the rule includes a signifier, and
  - o If a signifier is included, retrieving the information tagged in the rule.

20 **Wallace** teaches wherein:

- The step of retrieving the information includes the steps of, for each rule used:
  - o Determining whether the rule includes a signifier (-83 especially i.e. p12-13 or p21-23 or p38-39 or p53-57), and
  - o If a signifier is included, executing instructions from the signifier to retrieve the information associated with the rule (-83 especially i.e. p12-13 or p21-23 or p38-39 or p53-57).

Rationale:

**Chikirivao** and **Wallace** are from the same field of endeavor, information management and retrieval. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the teachings

Art Unit: 2129

of **Chikirivao** by using executing instructions to retrieve information is needed as taught by **Wallace** for the benefit of making it easy for non-programmers to simply / easily write interactive responses for a variety of applications (**Wallace** p36, 77-80).

**Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103**

Claim 22 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Chikirivao** (USPAP 2003/0163783) and **Wallace** ("The Elements of AIML Style") in view of **Jammes** (USPN 6,484,149).

**Claim 22:**

The combination of **Chikirivao** and **Wallace** fails to teach:

- Wherein the step of retrieving rules retrieves all of the rules in a template information script.

**Jammes** teaches:

- Wherein the step of retrieving rules retrieves all of the rules in a template information script (C1-56 especially "based on a template ... scripts to extract stored ... patterns ... against customization rules" C43:40-65).

**Motivation:**

**Jammes** and the combination of **Chikirivao** and **Wallace** are from the same field of endeavor, software development. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the combined teachings of **Chikirivao** and **Wallace** by retrieving all of the rules in a template information script as taught by **Jammes** for the benefit of making the on-line experience more convenient and expedient as well as more pleasant (**Jammes** C4:10-35).

**Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103**

Claims 25-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Chikirivao** (USPAP 2003/0163783) and **Wallace** ("The Elements of AIML Style") in view of **Habraken** ("Microsoft Office XP 8-in-1" – Part III: Word – Chapter 2: Working with Documents).

Art Unit: 2129

**Claim 25:**The combination of **Chikirivao** and **Wallace** fails to teach:

- Wherein the predefined event is closing of the template.

**Habraken** teaches:

- 5        -    Wherein the predefined event is closing of the template (pages 4-16 especially "Before closing ... asks whether you want to save these changes before closing" page 15).

Motivation:

10        **Habraken** and the combination of **Chikirivao** and **Wallace** are from the same field of endeavor, software. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the combined teachings of **Chikirivao** and **Wallace** by saving information to be available occurs when closing the template being edited as taught by **Habraken** for the benefit of not wanting to lose any recent changes (**Habraken** page 15) since you don't want to lose your valuable documents as you create them (**Habraken** page 13).

**Claim 26:**

- 15        The combination of **Chikirivao** and **Wallace** fails to teach:

- Wherein the predefined event is passage of a predetermined amount of time.

**Habraken** teaches:

- Wherein the predefined event is passage of a predetermined amount of time (pages 4-16 especially "AutoSave feature ... AutoRecoverInfo Every ... set the time interval between autosaves" page 13).

20        Motivation:

25        **Habraken** and the combination of **Chikirivao** and **Wallace** are from the same field of endeavor, software. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the combined teachings of **Chikirivao** and **Wallace** by saving information occurs after a predetermined amount of time as taught by **Habraken** for the benefit of not wanting to lose any recent changes (**Habraken** page 15) since you don't want to lose your valuable documents as you create them, so if you are really absent-minded about periodically saving your work, use the AutoSave feature (**Habraken** page 13).

Art Unit: 2129

**Conclusion**

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to Applicants' disclosure.

- Goh ("Intelligent Agent Technology in E-commerce")
- Dorai ("Embedded Grammar Tags: Advancing Natural Language Interaction on the Web")
- 5 - Schwartz ("Applying an Information Gathering Architecture to Netfind: A White Pages Tool for a Changing and Growing Internet")

Claims 1, 13-15, 22-35, & 40 are rejected.

**Correspondence Information**

10 Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Benjamin Buss whose telephone number is 571-272-5831. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9AM-5PM.

As detailed in MPEP 502.03, communications via Internet e-mail are at the discretion of the applicant. Without a written authorization by applicant in place, the USPTO will not respond via Internet e-mail to any Internet  
15 correspondence which contains information subject to the confidentiality requirement as set forth in 35 U.S.C. 122. A paper copy of such correspondence will be placed in the appropriate patent application. The following is a sample authorization form which may be used by applicant:

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Vincent can be reached on 571-272-3080. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

25 Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Art Unit: 2129

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